

REMARKS

Claims 13-17, 19 and 20 were pending in this case. All claims were rejected in the Office Action having a mailing date of June 6, 2004. Claims 13-15 are cancelled. Claims 16, 19 and 20 are amended. New claims 21-29 are added. Reconsideration of the remaining claims is requested in light of the amendments made and the arguments presented below.

Claim 16 was rejected under 37 CFR 103(a) as unpatentable over any one of Koo (US Patent No. 6,169,295) or Schairer (US Patent No. 6,301,035) in combination with Figure 3 of the present application. Claim 16 is amended to be in independent form and to include the limitation “the primary lens located between the secondary lens and the at least one infrared emitting device, the secondary lens unit causing a ray to be refracted such that the angle of the ray with respect to the secondary lens is modified by passing through the lens.” This limitation does not appear to be shown by either of the cited references or Figure 3. Specifically, Figure 3 shows a protective lens 16. In discussion of Figure 3, the specification teaches, “All prior art assemblies 10 include a protective lens 16 that has no refractive power.” Page 5, lines 8-9. Thus, lens 16 of Figure 3 does not appear to show this claim limitation. Therefore, it is submitted that the rejection is overcome. Claim 17 depends from claim 16 and is submitted to be allowable at least for depending from an allowable base claim.

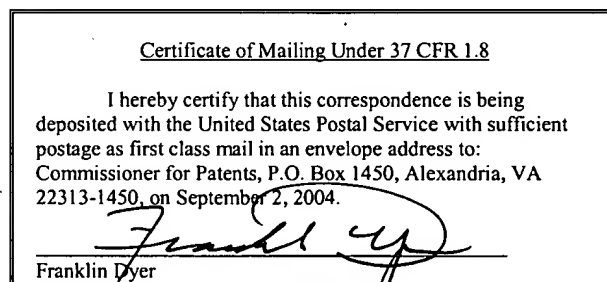
Claim 19 was rejected under 35 USC 102(e) as anticipated by either Koo or Schairer. Claim 19 as amended includes the limitations “said transceiver circuit device being located on said second side” and “said infrared emitting device located on said first side.” Such a structure is supported throughout the specification and in particular in Figures 10-13 and the related portions of the description. It is submitted that this structure is not shown by the cited references because both references appear to show only structures in which components are mounted on the same side. Therefore, it is submitted that the rejection is overcome.

Claim 20 is amended to reflect a process using a circuit structure comprising a printed circuit board. Claim 20 is submitted to be allowable at least for depending from an allowable base claim.

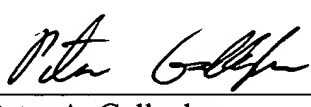
New claims 21-29 are added. Claim 21 recites “the optical transmission device mounted to a first side” and “the transceiver device mounted on a second side of the support element.” These limitations are supported throughout the application and in particular in Figures 10-13

added to the specification in application number 09/285,608 from which this application claims priority. The limitations are believed to be supported by both application number 09/285,608 and the present application, which uses somewhat different terminology (e.g. "emitting device" in place of "emitter" and "detection device" in place of "detector"). The claimed structure of claim 21 does not appear to be shown by either of the cited references. Claims 22-29 depend from claim 21 and are therefore submitted to be allowable at least for depending from an allowable base claim. In addition, claims 22-29 include additional features that do not appear to be shown by the cited references and are therefore submitted to be additionally allowable.

Accordingly, it is believed that this application is now in condition for allowance and an early indication of its allowance is solicited. However, if the Examiner has any further matters that need to be resolved, a telephone call to the undersigned attorney at 415-318-1163 would be appreciated.



Respectfully submitted,


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9/2/04
Date